TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office

February 28, 1997 LB 104

wavelengths that might be made available for 911 use and all the other things that Senator Abboud talked about. They are upset because the big shot said we are not going to be involved in this and you're not going to touch us, and it confirms what I said the other day. They'll jump all over the little people, the elderly and the impoverished. But as soon as Senator Suttle just lightly pricks these big shots and they say, no, then the Legislature...it's...the representatives of those big shots come here and tell us all of the horrible things that are going to happen. I'd like to ask Senator Abboud a question.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Abboud, will you yield for a question?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And now they're starting to get my dander up. Senator Abboud, are you willing to have these cellular phone owners pay anything by way of a surtax to fund 911? Not make them the exclusive ones, but have them pay the same that you're making these elderly and impoverished people pay, are you willing to do that by way of an amendment?

SENATOR ABBOUD: Senator Chambers, I thought I explained it in my last five minutes here talking about it. This amendment doesn't do what Senator Suttle thinks it does.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I'm not talking about this amendment, that's why I'm asking you this direct question.

SENATOR ABBOUD: I'm going to give you a direct answer. I'm not going to support this amendment.

SENATOR CHAYBERS: Are you opposed to those who own cellular phones having a surtax placed on their cellular phone, not pursuant to the amendment, the way Senator Suttle has drafted it, but is it your position that you don't want them to have to pay anything as far as a surtax? Is that your true position?

SENATOR ABBOUD: My true position is that I introduced LB 104 to raise a specific amount of money to pay for a new system. I don't believe Senator Suttle's proposal raises or could raise enough money to pay for the new 911 system. That's my answer.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. And totally evades the question,